the latter from proceeding with their construction. However, the Union Government has not given investment clearance to any such project.

[Translation]

Grants to Sports Authority of India

3022. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount provided in the form of grants or otherwise to the Sports Authority of India during the last three years; and

(b) the manner in which the amount so provided is monitored ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) During the last three years, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has been provided the following amount in the form of Grants or otherwise:

Sl.No.	Year	Amount
1.	1994-95	Rs. 42,62,98,000/-
2.	1995-96	Rs. 41,26,00,000/-
3.	1996-97	Rs. 47,81,23,000/-

(b) the Accounts of the Sports Authority of India are audited by the Comptroller and Aditor General of India and its Annual Report and Audited Accounts are laid on the tables of both the Houses of Parliament. As such, the amount provided to SAI is properly monitored by a competent authority.

[English]

Bypass on N.H.-17

3023. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the status of the work at present of bypass at Verna on National Highway-17 in Goa;

(b) the name of the party to whom the work has been awarded with the estimated cost; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The work of bypass at Verna on National Highway 17 in Goa stands sanctioned for Rs. 313.34 Lacs.

(b) The tenders have been called and the lowest tender received is of M/s Peter B. Colaco & Sons.

(c) The date by whcih the work is likely to be completed is 31.7.1999.

[Translation]

Literacy Drive in Villages

3024. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the works being executed for promoting education and literacy in villages;

(b) whether the Government are satisfied that the above works are going on satisfactorily; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) The Total Literacy Campaigns which is the principal strategy of the National Literacy Mission is at eradication of illiteracy of the entire targetted non-literate population in whole country without any distinction between urban and rural areas. Keeping in view the fact that rural literacy rate is 44.45% a specific scheme of Rural Functional Literacy Project is being implemented in the North Eastern States, Sikkim and Jammu & Kashmir where the campaign mode approach cannot be adopted on account of logistic reasons. As many as 65 projects are in operation under this scheme.

(b) and (c) Department of Education conducted a status-cum-impact Evaluation of the Total Literacy Campaigns which revealed the strengths and weaknesses of the programme. On the basis of the recommendations of the committee measures have been taken to strengthen and improve literacy programmes. The steps, inter alia, include involving of Panchayati Raj Institutions more intimately in implementation of literacy compaigns and revitalising the monitoring mechanism to ensure effective implementation of Adult Education programme with a view to achieving the national goal of eradication of illiteracy in the country.

Cut in Pay Scales of Historians

3025. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR SINHA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Historical Research proposes to slash the salaries of some historians;